

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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TO : EUR - Mr. Tolson

DATE: August 8, 1961

FROM : SOV - John C. Guthrie JC

SUBJECT: Soviet Hints of Interest in a Summit Meeting on Berlin and Germany

You will recall that in his speech of July 8, Khrushchev called for a peace treaty conference on Germany and in so doing specifically mentioned President Kennedy, Prime Minister Macmillan and President de Gaulle as persons who might attend such a conference. This could certainly be regarded as a hint of Soviet interest in a summit meeting. On July 31, the Press Counselor of the Italian Embassy, Mr. Pascarelli, told me a story to the effect that Mr. McCloy was bearing a personal message from Khrushchev to the President asking for a Four Power summit meeting on Berlin and Germany. According to Pascarelli, this story came from a Communist correspondent. Today, Earl Voss of the Evening Star telephoned me to discuss Khrushchev's latest speech. In the course of the conversation, he asked me if McCloy had brought a message from Khrushchev to the President concerning a Four Power summit meeting. He said that he had been told this story by a lower ranking member of the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

It appears safe to conclude that the Soviets are putting out cautious feelers looking toward a summit meeting.

cc: S/B  
GER  
SOV - Mr. W.O. Anderson  
INR/RSB

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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